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Transfer Approved For CATV

Approval of the Community Antenna Television (CATV) franchise transfer to a new corporation was granted by City Council Tuesday night.

The franchise will be transferred to the newly - formed Martinsville Cable Vision Inc., an affiliate of the American Finance Management Corp. of Silver Spring, Md.

The franchise was awarded in 1966 to C. Harry Anglin, trading as Clearview Cable Television Co. The franchise and pole agreement with the city will be transferred from the Clearview company to the new corporation

Anglin is president of and a director in the new corporation, which has agreed to perform all conditions set out in the franchise and pole agreement.

In addition to President Anglin, other officers of the new corporation are Robert Monroe of Charlottesville, executive vice-president. Monroe also is president of the Jefferson Cable Corp. in Charlottesville.

Charles Weir of Bethesda, Md. will serve as vice - president; and R. B. Evans, secretary. All will serve as directors.

Other directors include Marvin B. Cranshaw of Fairfax County, vice - president and treasurer of American Finance System Inc. of Wilmington, Del., of which the new corporation is a subsidiary; and S. S. Flythe Sr., president of the First National Bank of Martinsville and Henry County.

Councilman Francis T. West informed Council he had been asked to serve as a director of the new corporation.

West, president of West Window Co., said he has conferred with the City Attorney and Commonwealth's Attorney and learned that his serving on the Board of Directors would not constitute a conflict - of - interest. However, West abstained from voting on the CATV franchise transfer.

A spokesman for the new corporation said Flythe has agreed to serve as a director. West said he has not officially agreed to serve.

Monroe said the corporation plans to make the system here a "model system" that eventually would provide some local origination programs.

Anglin informed Council that the Hunting Ridge Road area is the only major section of the city without cable TV but that service is planned for that area.

He said his firm was ready to install the underground cable there sometime ago when ditches for other wiring had been dug. But Anglin said it rained about three days and the wiring was installed and ditches covered on a Sunday without his knowledge.

Anglin said only about 2 per cent of city's streets are not wired for CATV service. He said his firm has about 1,150 subscribers in the city and county on the approximately 110-mile cable system. He noted a backlog of about 80 requests for service.

City Attorney Irvin W. Cubine advised Council that any funds owed to the city by the Clearview company should be taken care of or arrangements made for payment before the transfer.